## **NEWS**

## From the County of San Bernardino Josie Gonzales Fifth District

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JGFDS-PR-291 COUNTY DEPARTMENT FILES \$9.4 MILLION IN TAXPAYER REFUNDS FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DAN FLORES AT (909) 387-4565

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Bernardino County's free tax filing program refunds \$9.4 million to taxpayers

**SAN BERNARDINO** – In one month, San Bernardino County's Transitional Assistance Department (TAD) has filed over \$9.4 million in tax returns for the public. As of Feb. 17, TAD has seen a 36 percent increase in overall tax refund dollars and a 40 percent increase in total taxpayers served compared to this time last year.

Almost \$5 million of the current total refund amount comes from individuals who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), a credit that thousands of families overlook when filing their taxes. For eight years, TAD has partnered with the Internal Revenue Service through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to offer free, confidential and certified tax return preparation to qualified individuals who earned less than \$51,000 in 2012. The VITA program focuses on providing the EITC to low-to-moderate income eligible individuals, a credit which has proven to help boost local economies.

"Programs like VITA are something that all of us should try to take advantage of. These are professionally coordinated and designed to help not only low-income individuals, but any and all residents who qualify," said Supervisor Josie Gonzales.

During the entire 2012 tax season, TAD helped file and process tax returns for more than 5,000 taxpayers in the community through the VITA program. In one month of service this year, TAD has reached almost 4000 tax returns.

"We have a flexible and coordinated appointment system for our customers which allows ease in scheduling someone at a location and time that works with their schedule," said Steve Couchot, TAD regional manager.

TAD will continue to offer services leading up to the end of the 2013 tax season at 15 different office locations and various mobile units throughout San Bernardino County.

Appointments can be made Monday-Saturday during regular business hours. Bilingual services are available. Call (909) 252-4903 for additional information and assistance.

	Tax Year 2012						OFFICE GOALS	
Office	Fed Refund		e Refunds		EITC	# of Returns Processed	Percentage of Goal Reached to date	GOALS - # of Returns
Adelanto	\$ 266,169.0	5 \$	10,061.00	\$	136,014.00	113	62.64%	180
Colton	\$ 736,638.0	0 \$	35,358.00	\$	358,449.00	296	74.96%	395
Barstow	\$ 287,492.0	0 \$	11,188.00	\$	164,604.00	129	84.98%	152
Del Rosa	\$ 683,848.0	5 \$	35,220.00	\$	325,152.00	260	69.52%	374
Fontana 09	\$ 513,401.0	0 \$	13,582.00	\$	295,562.00	187	43.04%	435
Hesperia	\$ 934,010.0	5 \$	31,273.00	\$	537,459.00	395	98.65%	400
Ontario	\$ 986,376.0	5 \$	36,696.00	\$	538,920.00	350	63.51%	551
Rancho	\$ 676,950.0	5 \$	26,007.00	\$	361,271.00	245	51.80%	473
Redlands	\$ 604,869.0	0 \$	22,299.00	\$	315,363.00	295	63.10%	468
San Bernardino 01	\$ 853,956.0	0 \$	38,318.00	\$	462,150.00	417	88.16%	473
29 Palms	\$ 62,244.0	0 \$	6,047.00	\$	24,695.00	38	58.55%	65
Victorville	\$ 1,088,167.0	0 \$	45,039.00	\$	561,273.00	467	79.21%	590
Yucca Valley	\$ 171,714.0		9,140.00	\$	98,772.00	68	39.13%	174
Rialto	\$ 399,305.0		15,247.00	\$	199,893.00	169	32.28%	524
San Bernardino 02	\$ 470,427.0	0 \$	24,803.00	\$	248,313.00	204	57.95%	352
Mobile Units	\$ 354,464.0		41,819.00	\$	121,920.00	235	95.37%	246
TOTALS	\$ 9,090,030.0		,		4,749,810.00	3868	66.11%	5851